

Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Call Series

The Cost of Cooling: Air Conditioning, Climate, and Health

August 12, 2021



Agenda and Ground Rules

- Agenda Review and Ground Rules
- Opening Poll
- Residential Network Overview and Upcoming Call Schedule
- Featured Speakers
 - Ronnen Levinson, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
 - Brett Bishop, Franklin Energy
 - Vince Romanin, Gradient
- Open Discussion
- Closing Poll and Announcements

Ground Rules:

- Sales of services and commercial messages are not appropriate during Peer Exchange Calls.
- 2. Calls are a safe place for discussion; **please do not attribute information to individuals** on the call.

The views expressed by speakers are their own, and do not reflect those of the Dept. of Energy.





Better Buildings Residential Network

Join the Network

Member Benefits:

- Recognition in media and publications
- Speaking opportunities
- Updates on latest trends
- Voluntary member initiatives
- One-on-One brainstorming conversations

Commitment:

Members only need to provide one number: their organization's number of residential energy upgrades per year, or equivalent.

Upcoming Calls (2nd & 4th Thursdays):

- 9/9: Behavior Change, Efficiency and Climate: What Really Happens vs. Models & Assumptions
- 9/23: Emergency Replacement: The Biggest Real-World Obstacle to Efficiency

Peer Exchange Call summaries are posted on the Better Buildings website a few weeks after the call

For more information or to join, for no cost, email bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov, or go to energy.gov/eere/bbrn & click Join





Call Attendee Locations







Opening Poll

- What is your organization's experience or familiarity with the relationship between air conditioning, climate, and health?
 - Very experienced/familiar
 - Some experience/familiarity
 - Limited experience/familiarity
 - No experience/familiarity
 - Not applicable







Ronnen Levinson

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory



Passive & low-energy cooling solutions to adapt to extreme heat: highlights from Berkeley Lab

Ronnen Levinson, Ph.D.

Staff Scientist and Leader, Heat Island Group Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Berkeley, California, USA tel. +1 510-486-7494 RMLevinson@LBL.gov

Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Call The Cost of Cooling: Air Conditioning, Climate, and Health 12 August 2021







O Cool Walls





A **cool exterior wall** reflects sunlight to reduce need for air conditioning—saving energy, money, and carbon

Wall solar reflectance

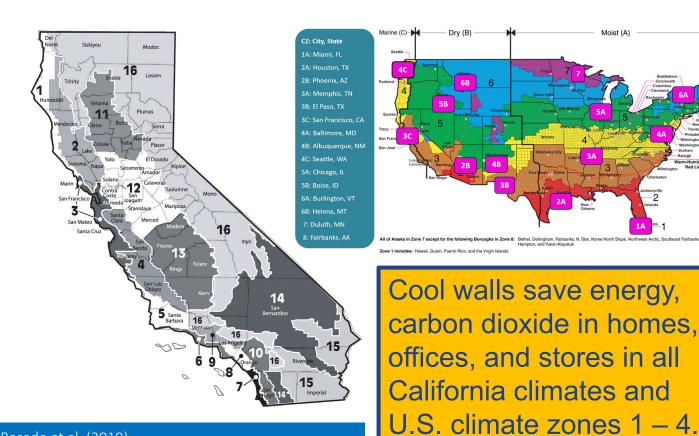
- Conventional ≈ 25%
- Cool color ≈ 40%
- Off or dull white ≈ 60%
- Bright white ≈ 80%







We evaluated **annual energy**, **cost**, **and emission savings** in each California and U.S. climate zone (> 100K simulations!)



CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Rosado et al. (2019). https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2019.02.028





In July, reflective walls in Los Angeles cool outside air nearly as much as reflective roofs

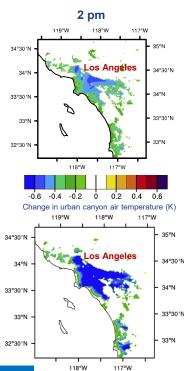
Cool walls vs. cool roofs: 44% less cooling at 2 pm

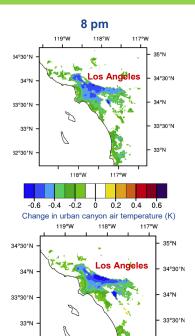
6% more cooling at 8 pm



Cool Roofs







118°W

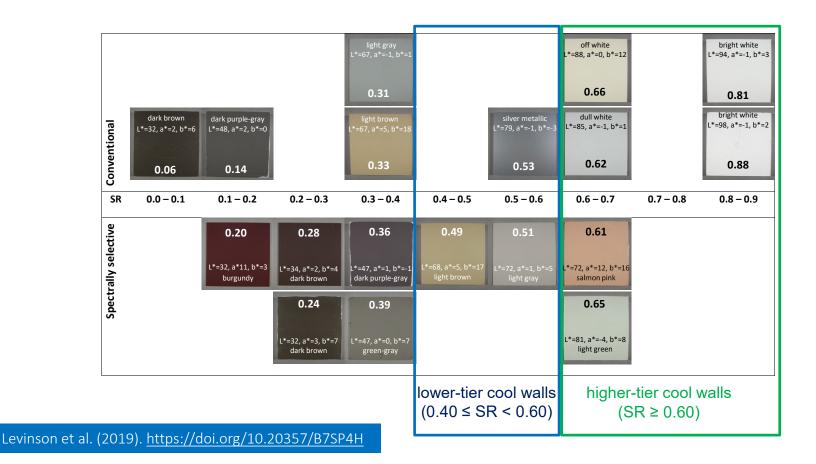
32°30'N

Zhang et al. (2018). https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.8b00732





Cool-wall products with high solar reflectance (SR) are sold today

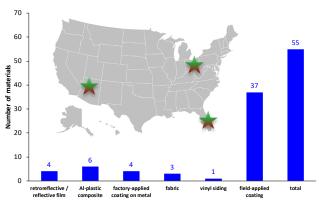




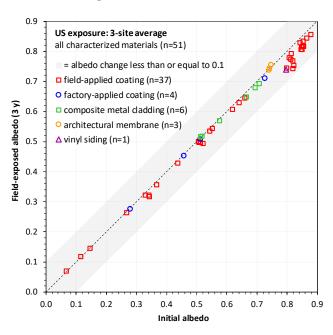


Cool-wall materials stay clean and reflective after 3 years of outdoor exposure





Average solar reflectance loss = 0.02



Chen et al. (2020). https://bit.ly/3gkfLjV





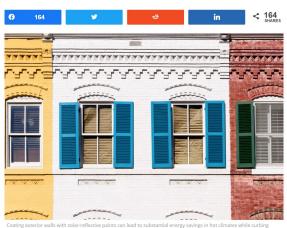
Learn more about cool-wall product rating and the new cool-wall LEED pilot credit from our news releases

NEWS CENTER

Can't Take the Heat? 'Cool Walls' Can Reduce Energy Costs, Pollution

Nationwide study by Berkeley Lab details benefits of lighter-colored, solar-reflective walls

News Release Glenn Roberts Jr. (510) 486-5582 • July 9, 2019



pollution, a Berkeley Lab study concludes. (Credit: iStock/YayaErnst)

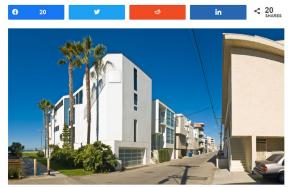
IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK, they might tell you that cutting energy costs and pollution may be as easy as giving them a fresh coat of lighter, more reflective paint.

https://newscenter.lbl.gov/2019/07/09/cool-walls-can-reduce-energy-costs-pollution

NEWS CENTER

'Cool Walls' Get a Boost from U.S. Green Building Council

Berkeley Lab research helps city-cooling measure get test integration with LEED rating system
Feature Story Julie Chao (510)486-6491 • May 18, 2021



White buildings stand along an alley in Los Angeles, California. Light-colored paints can help reflect sunlight, helping to co-cities and fight the urban heat island effect. (Credit: iStock)

Sunlight-reflecting "cool walls" have been shown to reduce energy costs by lowering heat gain in buildings. But they do more – reflective walls can also cool cities, fighting the urban heat island effect. The concept has new support from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), which has issued a pilot credit for the installation of cool exterior walls in new homes, schools, and commercial buildings to mitigate urban heat islands.

https://newscenter.lbl.gov/2021/05/18/cool-walls-get-a-boost-from-u-s-green-building-council





Extreme Heat





"Heat now causes more deaths than hurricanes, tornadoes or floods in most years" — *The Guardian*, 16 June 2020









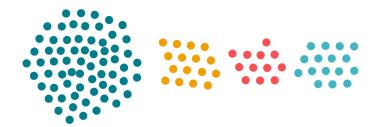
Without air conditioning, homes can grow deadly hot during extreme heat events

Indoor heat deaths

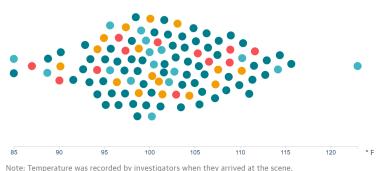


Indoor heat deaths





"Over the summers of 2016 through 2018, more than 100 people in Maricopa County, Arizona were killed by extreme indoor heat."



Source: Maricopa County Medical Examiner. Credit: Graphic by Veronica Penney and analysis by Elisabeth Gawthrop, Columbia Journalism Investigations / Center for Public Integrity

http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/ 2020/jun/16/climate-deaths-heat-cdc





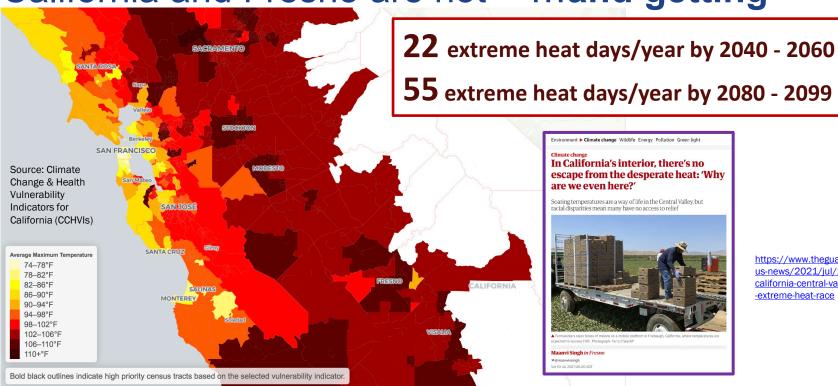
Cal-THRIVES: A California Toolkit for Heat Resiliency in Underserved Populations





Heat is increasingly brutal in California's Central Valley, where low incomes, poor air quality, old homes, and high utility bills disadvantage many residents

California and Fresno are hot ...and getting



https://www.theguardian.com/ us-news/2021/jul/10/ california-central-valley -extreme-heat-race





The California Strategic Growth Council is sponsoring research to help Fresno residents adapt to extreme heat



CAL-THRIVES: A California Toolkit for Heat Resiliency in Underserved Populations



Principal Investigator: Max Wei, LBNL MWei@LBL.gov

Max Wei(1), Ronnen Levinson (1), Tianzhen Hong(1), Kai-yu Sun(1), Zhao-yun Zeng(1), Wanni Zhang(1), Yu-jie Xu(1), Henry Willem(1), Susan Mazur-Stommen(2), Haley Gilbert(2), George Ban-Weiss(3), Alexandra Bruce(3), Yuxi Liu(3), Kayley Butler(3), Janice Mathurin(4), Yolanda Sue Randles(4)

(1) Lawrence Berkeley National Lab; (2) Indicia Consulting; (3) University of Southern California; (4) West Fresno Family Resource Center

















Our heat-resiliency recommendations will incorporate both community input and science

Community engagement



Cooling center optimization



Neighborhood-scale building modeling



Outdoor measure modeling



Heat Resilience Toolkit

Fact sheets
Modeling outputs
Heat vulnerability index tool
Online tools (videos, webinars)
Policy/program
recommendations





We're modeling **nine passive indoor cooling measures** in a worst-case heat wave, with and without grid power available

Window blinds



Window overhangs



Cool roof



Cool walls



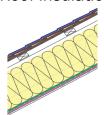
Storm windows



Solar-control window films



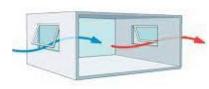
Roof insulation



Radiant barrier



Natural ventilation







We're also evaluating eight active indoor cooling measures and four passive outdoor cooling measures

Ceiling fans



Evaporative cooler



Window AC



ACTIVE INDOOR
Attic fan



Central AC



Portable AC



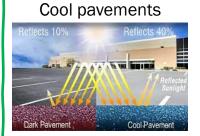
Portable fans



Mini-split AC



PASSIVE OUTDOOR



Trees



Cool walls

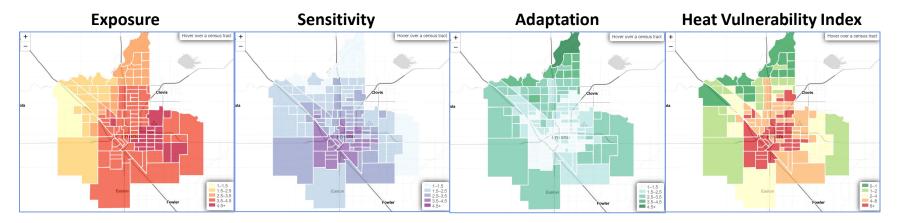


Canvas canopies





Our **Heat Vulnerability Index Tool** will map exposure, sensitivity, adaptation, and overall heat vulnerability



Number of hours with high heat index Longest number of consecutive heatwave days

Number of heat-wave days

PM2.5 concentration

Ozone concentration

Building heat resistance indicator

Percent elderly and under 5

Percent of pop. without high school degree

Percent of pop. below poverty level

Percent non-white pop.

Percent of pop. with ambulatory disability

Asthma hospitalization rate

Heart attack rate

Percent of pop. with a cognitive disability

Median income

Percent of area covered in parks

Highest vulnerability in south/central Fresno with high sensitivity and low adaptation

https://citybes.LBL.gov/?hvi=1





Cal-THRIVES modeling results and toolkit will be available early next year

- Estimated reductions in
 - Indoor air temperature
 - Unmet degree hours
 - Heat index danger hours
- Recommendations
 - Passive, active measures
 - Building code innovations







4 IEA Annex 80: Resilient Cooling of Buildings





IEA Annex 80: **Resilient Cooling of Buildings** (2019 – 2023)

16 countries exploring passive/lowenergy cooling solutions with three goals:

- Make <u>building occupants</u> more resilient to hot weather, boosting comfort, health, and productivity
- Make <u>building cooling systems</u> more resilient to hot weather, improving their ability to meet cooling load
- Make the electric grid more resilient to hot weather, reducing failures







Cool roofs

Solar-control windows

Ceiling fans







Cool walls

Window shading

Natural ventilation

https://annex80.iea-ebc.org

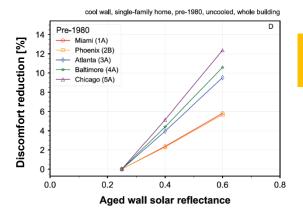
Focus of DOE-sponsored project at Berkeley Lab & UC Berkeley



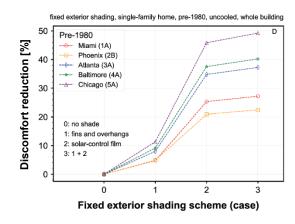


Example: Individual passive or low-energy cooling measures can **reduce overheating** in a U.S. pre-1980 single-family home without AC **by up to 70%**

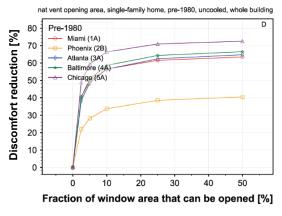




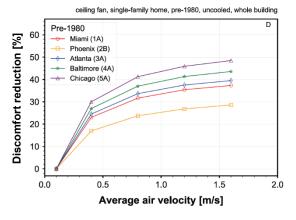
Exterior shading



Natural ventilatio n



Ceiling fans



Discomfort = annual discomfort-weighted warm exceedance hours (ASHRAE Standard 55-2019)

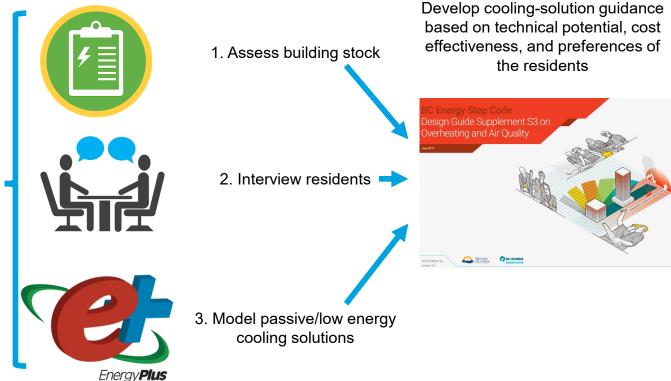




We will customize suites of passive/low-energy cooling solutions in another two disadvantaged communities: **Atlanta, GA** and **Mystic River, MA** (near Boston)



Identify two residential study locations in different climates







Thank you!







Brett Bishop
Franklin Energy



The cost of cooling: "Need to knows" the Implementation of heat pump HVAC in energy Programs

Brett Bishop
Director of Contract Services
August 12th, 2021



Introduction & Conclusion

"Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection."

Mark Twain

- 1. Multiple benefits exist with Heat Pump HVAC
 - All non-energy benefits we know and love about energy efficiency will NOT be covered
 - Improved air quality, Comfort, quality of LIFE!
 - · For this audience these are knowns
 - Population level load management
 - Increased load management opportunities
- 2. Solutions should be tailored at the site level
 - Barriers are varied by site and socioeconomics
 - Contractor training is critical
 - Shell measures optimize results
 - Heat Pump Technology is robust, proven, valuable, and synergistic with Grid Ops
- 3. Infrastructure improvements have impacts at the Portfolio Level and are inaccurately attributed
- 4. All stakeholders benefit if we get this right
 - The entire supply chain benefits and should be called upon for their unique specialties
- 5. We need to get this right the first time
 - Reliably drives the market!





DUCTED AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMPS

Split Systems

- Bi-Directional Refrigerant Flow
- Outdoor Condenser
- Indoor Air Handler
- Refrigerant Line Field Installed
- Two Circuits

Package Units

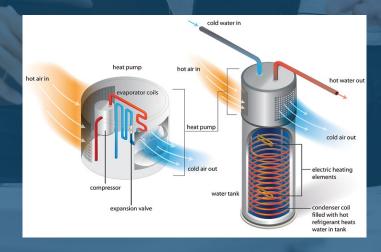
- Bi-Directional Refrigerant Flow
- Outdoor and Indoor Units in One
- Ducted through Roof or Subfloor
- Refrigerant "Charged" at Factory
 - One Circuit

Water Heating is Very Different

- Single Direction Refrigerant Flow
- Indoor Application Predominate
- Refrigerant Charged at Factory
- May Need Ducting due to Cold Air Discharge
- One Circuit





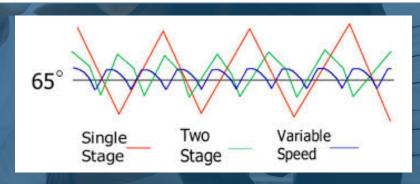


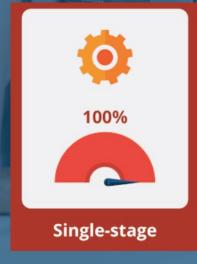




Approaches to HVAC System Demand

- Two Stage and Variable systems perform better from demand management and customer experience perspectives
- Two stage has been around a 20+ years and is often baseline for end user financed systems













HVAC System Demand Dynamics

HP Only w/ 5 to 20 kW "Booster Heater"	Hybrid System	Variable Refrigerant Flow & "Oversizing"
1st Stage Heat is achieved by Heat Pump	1st Stage Heat is achieved by Heat Pump	Entirely UD Operation
2nd Stage is a LARGE DEMAND Electric Heater	2nd Stage is a Gas Burner	Entirely HP Operation
Requires (2) 230 Volt Circuits	both Split & Package Systems	
Electric Resistance during Peal Grid Demand	Manages Demand during Peak Grid Demand	Manages Load 24/7/365
Lowest Cost	Mid-Range Cost	Highest Cost
Resistance heat is typically not captured by programs (invisible)		Will falsely appear to be additional load

A 5 kW Solar Array will typically need 18 panels





Utility Service by Solution



HP Only w/ 5 to 20 kW "Booster Heater"

- Package Units will have a serviceable circuit existing
- Dual fuel Split Systems will have 230 Volts at the condenser and 115 Volts at the Air Handler
- Rewiring the Air Handler location to 230 Volts may be required for booster heat.
- 115 Volt Air Handlers exist and may work in some applications



Hybrid System

 Any dual fuel existing system will have the utilities needed where the equipment is located, this applies to both Split and Package systems



Variable Refrigerant Flow & "Oversizing"

- Split systems will require (2) 230 Volt circuits
- Package Systems will require (1) 230 Volt circuit
- Larger homes with poor shell measures may need booster heat or multiple systems, multiple systems is more costly yet manages loads better
- Shell measures are always most cost effective



Secondary heating should only operate at or below freezing





Breaker Panel Concerns

100 AMPS OR LESS EXITING

- Potential to reuse circuits if there is enough capacity for existing and one or maybe two new circuits
- Potential to expend resources on new circuits and need a panel replacement later
- Some level of service will be needed in any case

200 AMP PANEL EXITING

- Typically, enough capacity to facilitate Renewables, Heat Pumps, and Evs
- Adding Heat Pumps or EV Charging Stations will require new or repurposed circuits
- New circuit costs are easily attributed to measures

NEWER & OLDER CONSTRUCTI ON

- NEWER construction typically has 200 Amp service existing with space and/or unused circuits
- OLDER construction typically needs panel improvements
- Older homes in rural locations are likely to have 200 Amp service
- Every home is unique

PANEL REPLACEMENT

- Costs vary by site conditions Overlap with renewables and transportation
- Detached garages cost more due to trenching
- Need and complexity in managing costs is greater
- Where should costs be attributed?
- Income qualified customers need more support



An excellent example of Service Panel Rebates

What's done right here:

- Multiple Sectors Addressed
- Market Rate and Income Qualified get "Right Sized" Incentives
- Measure and Panel upgrade costs are captured distinctly

Implementation Concerns:

- Rich incentives in Income Qualified may lead to contractor price gauging
- More site data needed to verify need level
- Field QA/QC safeguards are more important, but can be redundant with code required inspections
- Data gathering to improve program operations is more robust than historical deemed savings programs



CHARGE YOUR RIDE

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGER PROGRAM

TYPE OF PROJECT	BASE INCENTIVE: HOMEOWNER	BASE INCENTIVE MULTI-FAMILY, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, & AG CUSTOMERS	INCOME QUALIFIED INCENTIVE & PUBLIC AGENCY INCENTIVE	
LEVEL 2 CHARGER ONLY	\$400	up to \$1,000 ea. (3 chargers max)	up to 100% of	
ELECTRICAL WORK up to \$2,000		70% of project cost (\$7K max)	project cost (\$10K max)	
MAX INCENTIVE	\$2,400	\$10,000	\$10,000	



- Older buildings will need more significant improvements
- Disadvantaged communities will have older buildings
- Newer buildings will have circuits that can be repurposed





Customers with Solar installed typically have corrected and/or upgraded service panels

- Building Departments and Code Officials view PV as added load on a system
- All in home end uses + PV system capacity dictates service capacity

Communities will have infrastructure costs to manage

- At the site level
 - The feeder wire coming to the meter may be too small
- At the neighborhood level
 - The transformer serving a neighborhood will **eventually** need upgrading with attrition or increases in demand
- At the grid level
 - Population growth and usage trends, including but limited to EVs and HPs, will incur infrastructure improvements

LOAD MANGEMENT





Load Managements Systems can be simple or complex. A simple system may only share load from dryer to an EV in the garage.

Smart breaker panels manage all loads, storage, EV, and PV, through phone apps with customized priorities and reports.





Moderate Climates with historically low cooling loads may have a significant percentage of heat only systems

- All HVAC HP Systems will provide both heating and cooling
- Adding AC where it did not exist before can be viewed as adding load
- As our climate continues to change market demand for cooling will increase
- Disadvantaged communities will be most effected by climate change
- How will the market respond to new demand for cooling if they are not aided by an energy professional?

HEAT ONLY TO HP SYSTEMS, ADDITIONAL

LOAD?

Market

Transformati

Market Rate

Programs



 Systems will run more frequently if shell measures are poor or absent

 Climate change will result in increased energy burden and harmful emissions

Newer systems can enable thermal storage, demand response, and Grid Harmonization.

Income

Qualified

HVAC programs succeed when they engage the entire market

- Manufacturing
- Distribution
- Trade Pros
- End users

Shell measures will reduce system sizes, frequency of operation, and run times

- A well-trained workforce does better quality work
- Utilities and local governments get greater visibility into the market





Effective implementation of HP-HVAC in energy efficiency programs

Lessons from the road

MARKET RATE & INCOME QUALIFIED

Comfortable Home Rebates PG&E

- Market Rate Program
- Meter Based Savings (NMEC)
- Contractor driven sales process
 - Education & training
 - Technical
 - Sales
 - Business Ops
 - Home as a system
- Rebate Level Considerations
 - Big enough to spur action
 - Small enough to manage the budget
 - Only measures that produce at the meter

Home Energy Savings MCE

- Equity Program
- Deemed Savings
- Neighborhood level customer outreach
- Customers can be cynical about any program due to prior experiences
- Customers often fear "new" technologies even if it's free
- Customers routinely fear the permitting process





What Happens if we get this wrong?

The most important factors considered when choosing an HVAC system are:

- 1. The system will operate for a long time without needing to be serviced or replaced
- 2. The operating cost
- 3. Always produces the desired air temperature
- 4. Purchase price is also important among the buying segment

Frank Landwehr Emerson Climate Technologies Residential Market Study 2015

Solar Thermal Lessons Learned,

"In the 1970s, solar thermal water heating rebates were generous, contractors installed them en masse, and most never reached their full potential. Solar thermal systems leaked, the tanks failed, and overall, it was not a successful effort."

Charley Cormany
Efficiency First California 2021

Lighting Lessons Learned,

"After imprudently producing low quality CFLs that spurred consumer dissatisfaction and created negative perceptions, the large lighting manufacturers determined that they would not promote LED products until they were truly ready, despite the desire to be first to market."

PNNL 2006





Multiple benefits to panel Upgrades

- Improvements in electrical infrastructure impacts,
 - HVAC
 - Renewables
 - Water Heating
 - Transportation

How can infrastructure costs be attributed to any one program or measure?

Food for thought,

Should the utility providers be allowed to include behind the meter improvements to capital improvement budgets (T&D) in Disadvantaged Communities?

Should HP driven technologies qualify Market Rate customers for lower rates? (i.e., "electric only")







"Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection."

Mark Twain

CONCLUSION

- 1. Multiple benefits exist with Heat Pump HVAC
 - Population level load reduction
 - Increased load management opportunities
 - All non-energy benefits we know and love about energy efficiency
 - · Improved comfort, air quality, etc.
- 2. Solutions should be tailored at the site level
 - Barriers are varied by site and socioeconomics
 - Contractor training is critical
 - Shell measures optimize results
 - Heat Pump Technology is robust, proven, valuable, and synergistic with Grid Ops
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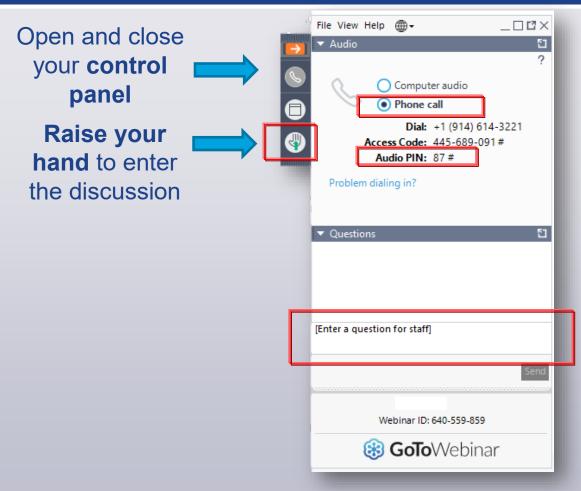








Discussion: Share Your Questions



Please use the questions box to submit questions, comments, or alert us of technical difficulties

If you have called in on a phone today, double check that you've selected telephone as your audio option.







Vince Romanin Gradient







Gradient

How do we make people want heat pumps?

Vince Romanin, Aug 2021



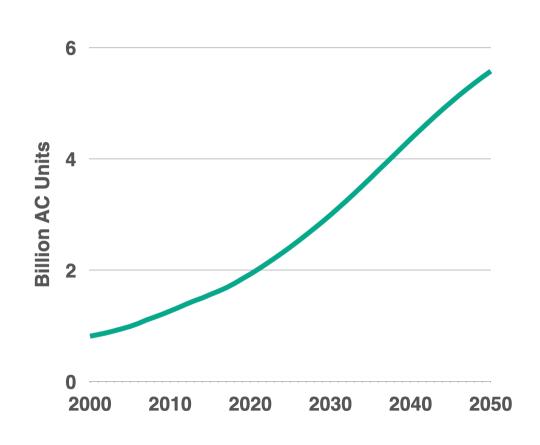
Our mission is to cool the world

by transforming every home and building to be more comfortable and healthy for the people who inhabit it — without compromising the environment





Humans will add 4 billion more air conditioners to the planet by 2050

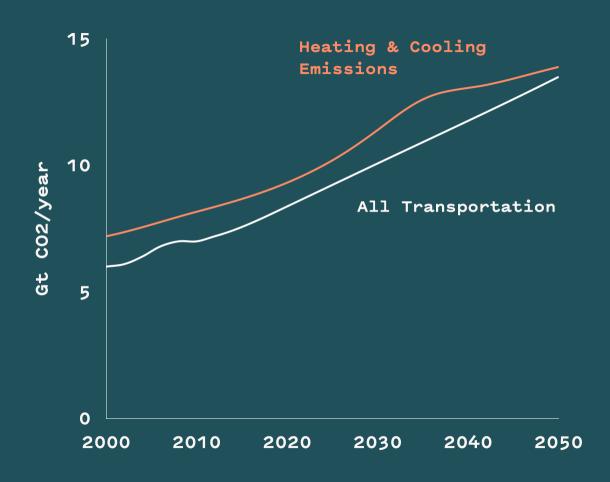


www.iea.org/cooling





Our need for climate control is **killing the climate**







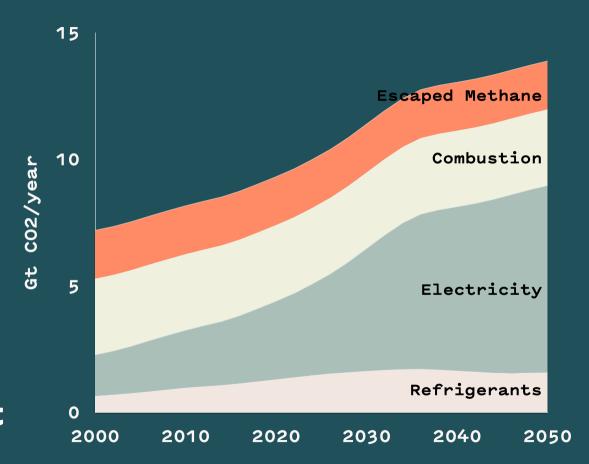
In the future:

everyone

has a **heat pump**

that is smart & efficient,

and uses a **natural refrigerant**



GRADIENT

PITCH DECK

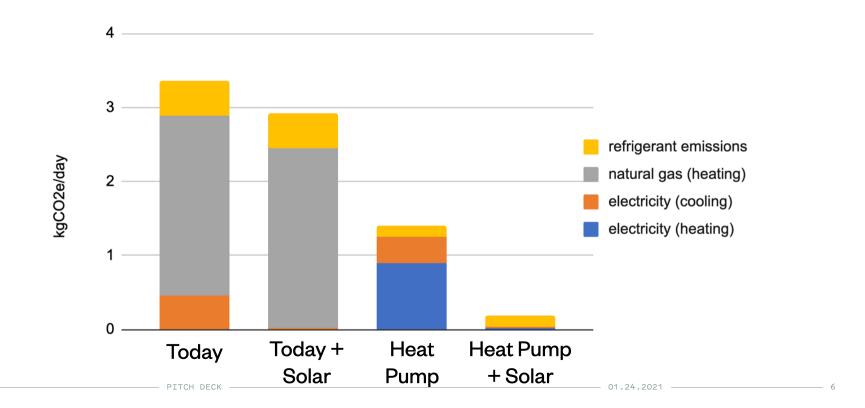
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How much carbon could a heat pump save?

AVERAGE HOME IN CA

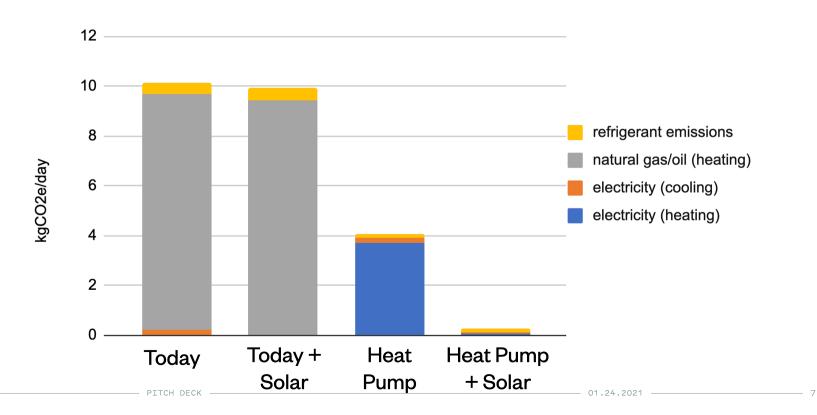






How much carbon could a heat pump save?

AVERAGE HOME IN NY







		Global HVAC market	
Residential - Ductless/Window	31%	— LAUNCH MARKET (2021)	
Residential - Unitary/Ducted	17%	—— MARKET 2 (~2022)	
Commercial - Ductless	20%	—— MARKET 3 (~2025)	
Commercial Applied	23%	Our first three phases cover more than 2/3 (68%) of the total global HVAC market	
Commercial Unitary/Ducted	9%		



*GRADIENT ---



Launch market: displace window ACs

LOUD











UGLY







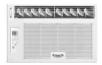




DANGEROUS











INEFFICIENT











*GRADIENT

PITCH DECK

01.24.202

_ 9



Split unit options

QUIET











10X COST











COMPLEX











...STILL UGLY











*GRADIENT

PITCH DECK

01.24.202

10



2022: Direct-to-Consumer Launch

- Cooling + heating
- 9,000 BTU/hr
- No tools, DIY install in <15 mins
- Whisper quiet
- Climate-friendly refrigerant
- WiFi control via iOS and Android app



*GRADIENT

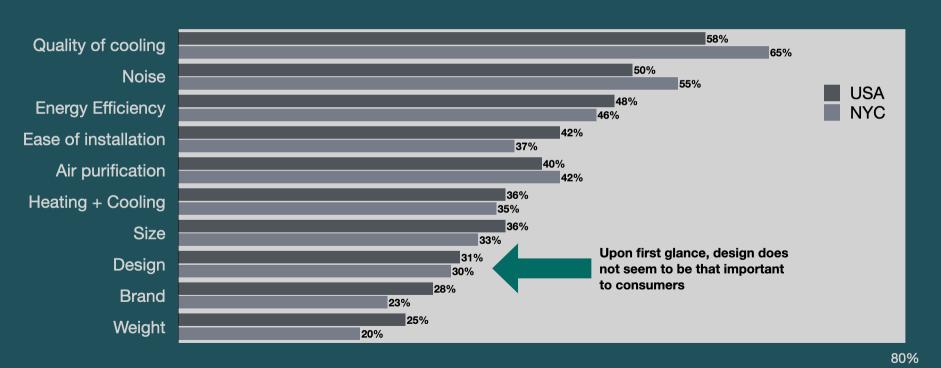
PITCH DECK





Customer research: Stated preferences

QUALITY AND NOISE ARE MOST IMPORTANT FEATURES BEFORE SEEING GRADIENT





-JANUARY 2021

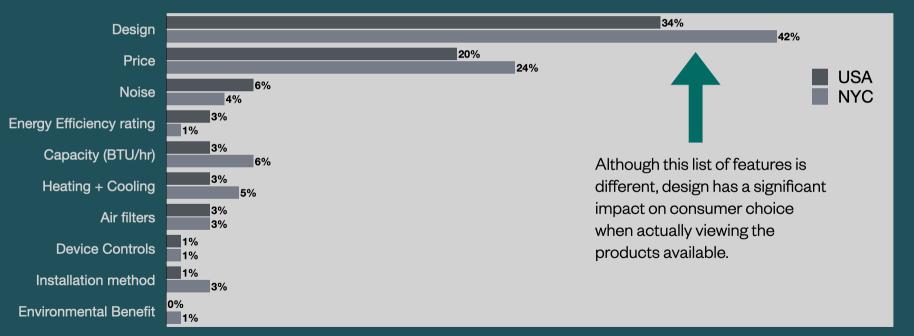
_____12





Revealed preferences

DESIGN RISES TO TOP WHEN FORCED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN GRADIENT & COMPETITORS



50%

RADIENT —————JANUARY 2021 ——————1





Gradient Leadership

DEEP TECH AND CONSUMER EXPERIENCE



Vince Romanin CEO





Kipp Bradford CTO





Amber Lucas COO





Kerry Cooper Board





Dorian West Board











Want to help?

- Sign up to beta test:
 www.gradientcomfort.com
- Help us hire: www.gradientcomfort.com/pages/careers
- Help enable natural refrigerants in UL 60335-2-40 and ASHRAE 15 vince@gradientcomfort.com

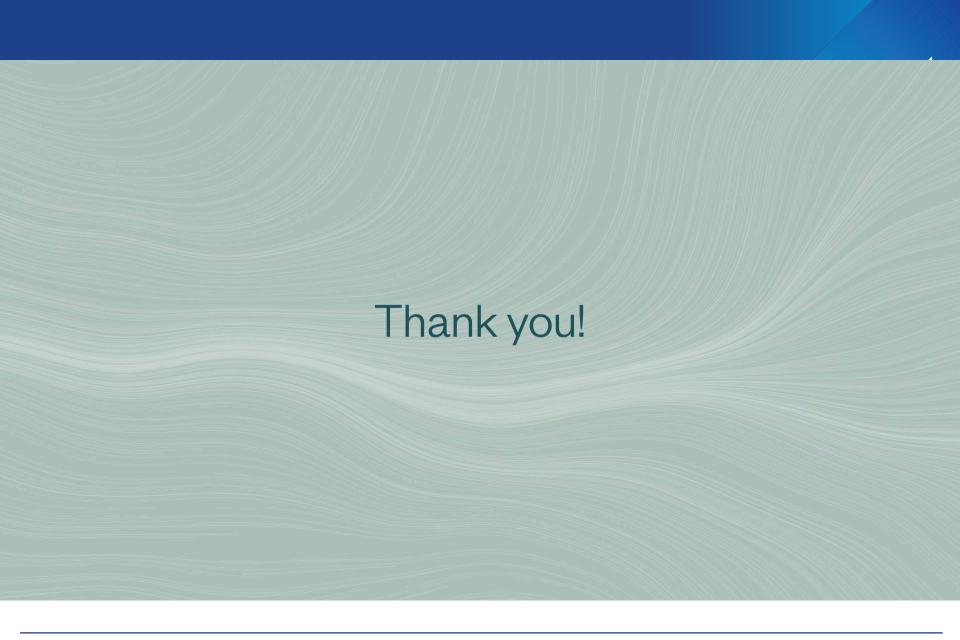


*GRADIENT

PITCH DECK



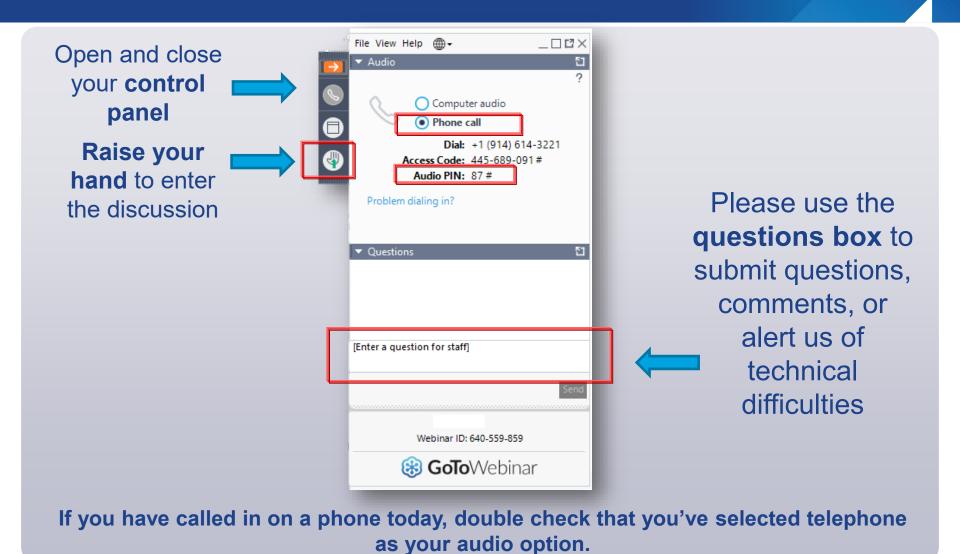








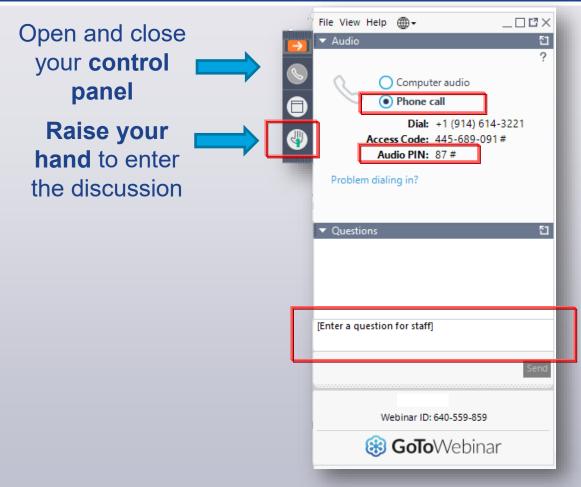
Discussion: Share Your Questions







Open Discussion



Please use the questions box to submit questions, comments, or alert us of technical difficulties

If you have called in on a phone today, double check that you've selected telephone as your audio option.





Closing Poll

• After today's call, what will you do?

- Consider implementing one or more of the ideas discussed
- Seek out additional information on one or more of the ideas
- Make no changes to your current approach
- Other (please explain)







Explore the Residential Program Solution Center

Resources to help improve your program and reach energy efficiency targets:

- Handbooks explain why and how to implement specific stages of a program.
- Quick Answers provide answers and resources for common questions.
- Proven Practices posts include lessons learned, examples, and helpful tips from successful programs.
- Technology Solutions NEW! present resources on advanced technologies, HVAC & Heat Pump Water Heaters, including installation guidance, marketing strategies, & potential savings.



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bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov



